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EDITORIAL OPINIONS OF THE LEADING JOURNALS UPON CURRENT TOPICS.

COMPILED EVERY DAY FOR THE EVENING TELEGRAPH.

Von Bismarck's Ambition and its Results.

From the Times.

There is nothing certainly in the character or past career of the great Prussian statesman, Von Bismarck, to call forth the esteem of any lover of liberty and popular rights in Europe. He has been the uncompromising supporter and unscrupulous advocate of extreme monarchical right in Prussia. If he had his way, the Prussian Parliament would have ceased to be anything but a subservient council of the King. He has treated its rights and dignity with the most contemptuous disdain, and has even ventured openly to break up a popular singing festival in Cologne, because the Liberal party expressed its views in some of the social gatherings. While he is at the helm the liberals of his country have no faith in any policy he may propose, or any war which he may lead. They hate him as the German enemy of popular freedom in Germany. It is this deep distrust of Bismarck that has prompted so many of the addresses and public meetings opposed to the war. All the large towns of Prussia, the centres of manufacturing, and especially the Rhine provinces, are filled with great numbers of citizens of liberal opinions, and their opposition to the monarchical leader, as well as their natural dread of the results of a great contest in Germany, render them cold, or opposed to the approaching struggle with Austria.

And yet, with all the past sins of Von Bismarck against liberty and the present opposition to him from the liberal party, we are inclined to believe that events may ultimately make him an unconquerable great instrument for popular freedom throughout Germany. He is evidently a man such as Germany has not had since Von Stein, or perhaps even the great Frederick; a statesman of great plans, of unbounded ambition for his country, and the most persistent resolution and unflinching audacity. He has that quality which one does not often find in Germans, of going direct to his practical object with the most unswerving will. His aims for Prussia are of no petty kind. He means to make her a naval power, to break the ports of the Dutch coast. This object he has carried through against the opposition of all Europe—first in combination with Austria, and now in her teeth; and at this moment Prussia holds the coast of the Baltic up to the frontier of Denmark, and in all probability will continue to hold it for centuries. This is the first prize he has won for the kingdom. But he aims at more. His apparent purpose is to finally terminate the struggle of centuries of Prussia with Austria within the German Empire—to complete Frederick's work by breaking down the ancient empire, and reducing her power in Germany to that of Bavaria or Saxony, and in the process he has no doubt counts on remodelling the Confederation, and placing Prussia at the head, perhaps absorbing a number of the minor States.

His plans seem to have been laid with consummate art and carried through with an all-subduing resolution. It is evident that each act in the great European drama, whether in Italy, France, Prussia, or Germany, has a bond of unity of plan, and that some great organizing brain is at the head. Italy arms step by step with Prussia, the throne of Roumania is occupied by a Prussian Prince, Napoleon comes out as the proper monarch denouncing the great pact on which the Austrian Empire can stand, and on the other the German Diet is defied, while six hundred thousand Prussian soldiers silently concentrate in Silesia and on the borders of Saxony.

There is a network of warlike and diplomatic movements, all having the same apparent object—the united attacking and humbling of Austria—extending from the mouths of the Danube and the shores of the Baltic to Italy and France. If one mind is not probably at the centre of them, it is hard to say it is a remarkable coincidence of singular events tending to the same end. Certainly, to the general observer, it appears that Italy, Prussia, France, and Roumania are moving as pieces in one vast game, conducted by one skillful player.

Now, it is not to be said that a man like Count Bismarck himself is everything, his means nothing. He has no conscience. He has no such physical Teutonic hesitancy about the inconsistency of his means with his objects. He does not care to the end for the means, he will bludgeon Austria and exulting Prussia he would embrace democracy itself. He will soon see that his great hindrances are the distrust of the liberal party and the opposition of the democrats of Germany. As these obstacles are, he will inevitably call for universal suffrage, will break up the Diet and invoke the sympathy of liberal Germany by summoning another with universal suffrage, and under the provisions of the laws of 1848. He will become the liberal of the liberals. He will have money, and he will have exhausted all available means, he will summon the Prussian Parliament, and in the king's name, yield everything for the sake of subsidies.

The Prussians, as did the English, may gain their constitutional privileges through the war. In these times of crisis, the people will be ready to follow their leader. Then the victory of the once reactionary statesman to Germany will be, a "Liberal and United Germany." He will crush the smaller States to elevate Prussia. And as all students of German history know, the greatest obstacles to German unity and popular liberty have been the great number of small principalities and petty kingdoms. Though he advances his own kingdom in the interest of monarchy, and breaks down the smaller States for the sake of absolutism, he may be really working in the interests of liberty and popular right.

The Twin Cherries.

From the Tribune.

When Messrs. Randall, Dixon & Co. issued a call for a National Convention to meet next month in Philadelphia, they seemed to invite and expect that said Convention should embody the sentiment and express the predominant convictions of the Union party—that Union party which sternly resisted and subdued the Rebellion—of that Union party which nominated Lincoln and Johnson, and elected them over McClellan and Pendleton. We said at once—This call is a fraud: its authors do not expect nor desire the attendance of delegates who shall faithfully represent the Union party; they desire and expect to carry off a mere salvage of this party (composed mainly of office-holders) and unite with the Democratic-McClellan party of 1864, thereby securing to the latter the government of the country. This statement was denounced and stigmatized; but a few days have sufficed to demonstrate its truth. The Union party of 1861-65 disowns this Convention, repudiates the authority of Randall & Co. to call it—refuses to attend or countenance it. Not ten of the 180 members of Congress chosen by the Unionists of 1864-5 give this Convention any sort of countenance; while on the other hand, their advisers, as well as a man, made made to rally and second the call, and to urge their party to be fully and ably represented therein. Forty of the chosen representatives, and General L. H. Rousseau, have united in this recommendation; and we presume the half-dozen names do not appear on their return. Thus the Randall Convention will be essentially a gathering of those who resolved at Chicago, in 1864, that the war for the Union had been a failure, and nominated accordingly. The journals which upheld the Rebellion to the last

are nearly all urging that "the South" shall be fully and strongly represented; so we shall have at Philadelphia a full Convention of those who maintained the Rebellion, and those who insisted that it should not, and could not be put down, but a very small percentage of those who upheld the Union, and who should be. Meantime, the coining and billing of the predestined compromisers of 1867-8 goes on with ever-increasing fervor and reciprocal delight.

The Tammany Society celebrated the Fourth of July at a dinner, where Mayor Hoffman presided, and Messrs. Andrew Johnson and William H. Seward were the foremost invited guests. Both responded lovingly, urging the restoration of the States, but never hinting that their loyal, faithful colored people ought to be at all considered in such restoration. Their ex-Rebels are all to be restored to power (to which we do not object) but the four millions of their people who contributed one hundred and eighty thousand soldiers to the Union armies and never a regiment, or a Rebel, are to be trampled under foot. "Restoration" for them means slavery; it is a wonder that neither they nor their friends are enraptured at the prospect?

Governor Seward stood through forty honorable years the consistent, conspicuous, determined adversary of the influences which have borne away in Tammany Hall. Yet he writes to the schemers as though only a lovers' quarrel had momentarily estranged them. Hear him!

Tammany have had some differences. In my time, with the Tammany society, I saw long ago, forgot them all, when I recalled the fact that the Society has never once failed to observe and honor the anniversary of the day when the great Republic was born. During the recent civil war, the Tammany Society sent its sons to fight for the Union, and with unswerving fidelity heartily supported the Federal Government and its measures with sedition. In view of these facts, and of the noble principles now avowed, I hail the Tammany Society as a true Union society.

There were members of the Tammany Society who fought in the Union, as there were others who fought in the Rebel armies; but it is not true that "the Tammany Society, with unswerving fidelity, heartily supported the Federal Government in its struggle with secession." In the darkest hour of our contest, Tammany Hall re-elected Ben. Wood to Congress, knowing that he never gave, and never would give, a vote in favor of suppressing the Rebellion. Tammany Hall elected and re-elected to Congress John W. Hunter, whose heart was as thoroughly with the Rebellion as was Ben. Wood's. And, in the gloomiest days of our great struggle, the Tammany orator of the Fourth delivered to a crowd of delighted Democrats, a lecture on Edmund Burke, who expressly stated that the slaveholding Rebels were fighting for the identical cause upheld by our fathers in their Revolutionary struggle, and never could, because they never ought, to be overcome.

Let all men understand that the Randall Convention of August 14 is to be a Convention of the Pro-Slavery Sham Democracy—that it is designed and engineered to pave the way to their restoration to power. A few Randalls and Raymonds are to be taken in, used to convert the minority of 1864 into a majority in 1868, and are to be paid the lowest price at which they can be had; but there is no thought of abandoning for their sake the distinctive hatreds, nor even the distinctive name, of the down-with-the-slaveryists, which has been the banner of the Democrats, its instincts, its oracles, will be the same that they have been—its success will be the downfall of all that triumphed with Lincoln and Grant. Let those who wish the country delivered over to the spirit evinced in the draft riots of 1863 to the Randall-McClellan Convention; but let all others beware of it!

Wendell Phillips on Congress and the President—The Old Liberty Party to be Revived.

From the Herald.

The usual convention of the Anti-Slavery Society took place at Framingham, Massachusetts, on the 4th instant, no doubt for the special purpose of giving Wendell Phillips an opportunity to have his say on the political questions of the day. As might have been expected, this high priest of the old abolition party exposed the duplicity of the party leaders in Congress, and denounced both the President and the radicals. Phillips, having fought his way into prominence in the ranks of the old liberty party and in the Anti-Slavery Society, and lived to see the adoption of his ideas of abolition of slavery, is inclined to be a little more than a little disappointed in the adoption of universal negro suffrage. On that point he will accept no compromise or half-way measure, but insists upon having universal suffrage or nothing. He finds that neither the President nor Congress is ready to grant it in the shape that he wants it, and as a matter of course, his speech at Framingham is filled with denunciations. The President, however, is let off very easily, compared with the accusations against the radicals in Congress. His indictment against the latter, if anything, exceeds Mr. Phillips' usual vigorous style. This prophetic and leader of the old abolition faction informed his followers gathered around him, that "the President has no policy, simply a plot," while Congress has been betrayed, and is demoralizing the popular mind.

The greatest plot made against the President is that he is the leader of the South, their general-in-chief, encamped in the White House, assisting that section in rallying the broken lines in an effort to restore, as early as possible, the matter as it was. But with all this he believes that Mr. Johnson is anxious to be elected President in 1868, and would be willing to give negro suffrage to secure that point. But while the President, according to high prices, is ready to give the matter, he is ready to see that he holds that Congress has surrendered the point at issue, and that the only purpose of the radicals is to bridge over the fall elections, in the hope of saving the party. They have proposed in the amendments to the Constitution to compromise the question of suffrage by a change of basis of representation. As a matter of course Mr. Phillips opposes these amendments, declares that they will never be ratified, and what is more, that the Republican leaders in Congress have taken the same line, and do not want them adopted. "I do not," says Phillips, "disgrace the whole proceedings when I say that it is a party trick. It is got up to serve a purpose, to kill time until after the election and get rid of a pressing emergency." But if it should by chance succeed, "then the negro will be given citizenship to the hands of his former master." Such is the view given of the action of Congress, which he characterizes as statesmanship of compromise and hypocrisy, in that it will give the radicals the credit of doing it in its consummation. Since neither the President nor Congress comes up to the standard of the old anti-slavery faction, and neither of the old parties of the day intend to adopt the idea that class action laboring for, it has become necessary to look to other means and other sources for the accomplishment of their purposes.

The plan for all this has been hit upon, Wendell Phillips finds, by looking over history, and seeing that the great control of Congress, the land and the ballot-box. The class which owns land will be able to mould the government. This, in his view, is the reason why the South desires to keep the lands out of the hands of the negroes. If they can only succeed in the hands of the white people, they will have heretofore held the supremacy in that section will be able to resist all efforts at their overthrow by revolution in their midst. Lands and the ballot-box for the negro are, therefore, indispensable to the restoration of the old Philadelphia radical idea. Unable to prevail upon the Republican party to engraft this upon its creed, he proposes to organize a party with that as its platform, and go before the people battling for that great principle.

In these times of crisis, the old Liberty and Abolition party of twenty years ago, and carry on the same system of tactics, adopting the cry of "Land and ballot for the negroes," in the place of abolition of slavery. Mr. Phillips admits that it may take them ten or fifteen years to secure their goal success, but he is certain that they will triumph in the end. This will bring a new party in the field, and will take from the present Republican organization all that class of men who, like Wendell Phillips, are honest in their convictions and prefer principles to party and official position. It will pro-

bably make a diversion in this way in the Northern States of upwards of two hundred thousand votes, and thus control a sufficient number of votes to more than hold the balance of power between the other two parties. Thus, at the very time when the conservative portion of the Republican party is preparing to hold a convention and cut loose from the radical wing, the honest portion of the balance, or the old anti-slavery element, has become so disgusted with the policy of the party in Congress that it is inaugurating a new movement in which the waters of the South shall be held and the negro, and opposition to all compromise of that principle. This is the result of the efforts of the radicals in Congress to save their party and bridge over the coming elections.

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